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## **Level 4**

### **IBM to invest \$1.2 billion in cloud services**

**19th January, 2014**

<http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140119-cloud-services-4.html>

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**Please try the harder Level 5 and the 26-page Level 6 (harder).**

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# THE READING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140119-cloud-services-4.html>

IBM is investing \$1.2 billion in cloud computing. The tech giant wants to be a bigger player in cloud storage. It will build 15 high-tech data centres worldwide. It must change from being a hardware company to providing online services. Its revenues have decreased for 18 months. It needs to reverse this trend. IBM said: "This is fundamental because this allows us global coverage. We are continuing to invest in where we think the growth areas are."

Wikipedia says cloud computing involves many computers, "connected through a real-time communication network such as the Internet". "The cloud" is a metaphor for the Internet. Companies use the idea of the cloud to sell more services. People keep their data and software with the cloud service company. There is no need to download anything or store information on a computer. Problems with cloud computing include security, reliability, and privacy.

Sources: <http://www.businessweek.com/news/2014-01-16/ibm-to-invest-1-dot-2-billion-to-build-on-softlayer-cloud-services>  
<http://news.techworld.com/data-centre/3497482/ibm-throws-12-billion-at-its-global-data-centre-network/>  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud\\_computing#Threats\\_and\\_opportunities\\_of\\_the\\_cloud](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cloud_computing#Threats_and_opportunities_of_the_cloud)

# MATCHING

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140119-cloud-services-4.html>

## PARAGRAPH ONE:

- |                          |                                |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. build 15 high-        | a. to invest                   |
| 2. The tech giant        | b. this trend                  |
| 3. It needs to reverse   | c. growth areas are            |
| 4. this allows us global | d. tech data centres           |
| 5. We are continuing     | e. wants to be a bigger player |
| 6. where we think the    | f. coverage                    |

## PARAGRAPH TWO:

- |                                  |                          |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1. cloud computing involves      | a. communication network |
| 2. connected through a real-time | b. download anything     |
| 3. "The cloud" is a metaphor     | c. and privacy           |
| 4. use idea of the cloud         | d. many computers        |
| 5. There is no need to           | e. to sell more services |
| 6. security, reliability,        | f. for the Internet      |

# LISTEN AND FILL IN THE GAPS

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140119-cloud-services-4.html>

IBM is investing \$1.2 billion in cloud computing. The

(1) \_\_\_\_\_ be a bigger player in cloud storage. It will build

15 (2) \_\_\_\_\_ worldwide. It must change from being a

hardware company to providing online services. Its

(3) \_\_\_\_\_ for 18 months. It needs to

(4) \_\_\_\_\_. IBM said: "This is fundamental because this

(5) \_\_\_\_\_. We are continuing to invest in where we

(6) \_\_\_\_\_ are."

Wikipedia says cloud computing (7) \_\_\_\_\_, "connected

through a (8) \_\_\_\_\_ network such as the Internet". "The

cloud" (9) \_\_\_\_\_ Internet. Companies use the idea of the

cloud to sell more services. People (10) \_\_\_\_\_ software

with the cloud service company. There is (11) \_\_\_\_\_

anything or store information on a computer. Problems with cloud computing

include security, (12) \_\_\_\_\_.

# "THE CLOUD" SURVEY

From <http://www.breakingnewsenglish.com/1401/140119-cloud-services-4.html>

Write five GOOD questions about "the cloud" in the table. Do this in pairs. Each student must write the questions on his / her own paper.  
When you have finished, interview other students. Write down their answers.

	STUDENT 1 _____	STUDENT 2 _____	STUDENT 3 _____
Q.1.			
Q.2.			
Q.3.			
Q.4.			
Q.5.			

- Now return to your original partner and share and talk about what you found out. Change partners often.
- Make mini-presentations to other groups on your findings.

## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student A: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

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## WRITE QUESTIONS & ASK YOUR PARTNER(S)

Student B: Do not show these to your speaking partner(s).

a)

b)

c)

d)

e)

f)

g)

h)

